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To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/2/02 2:24pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I'm writing for the first time to you on this. It is time to finalize the proposed settlement and let Microsoft get on with business. I remember when a word processing , graphics presentation, and spreadsheet software came from three different companies. You had to learn each with their own idiosyncrasies. Microsoft put everything into one suite and made software easy to use and cheaper for the layman.

Additionally, I am embarrassed that my own government chose to penalize a company for being successful. Anti- trust laws are meant to protect the consumer, not competitors. What Microsoft gave the consumer was more workable and cheaper software than what was available. To say that giving a free browser hurt the consumer is quite a stretch.

Settle!

John F. Beck